

THE FLYER



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Salisbury University's Student Voice

Online exclusives at www.theflyer.com

Editorial

'I'd let Chris Brown beat me'

Tweets on Chris Brown's performance at the Grammys raise concerns about society.

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Magic in sports

Students recreate the wizarding world through muggle-style Quidditch.

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Sports

The NBA reaches halfway mark

Teams battle for top spots and Jeremy Lin's press.

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Same-sex marriage bill passes in House

BY JAMES TOWNSEND
News Writer

After years of lobbying, proponents of same-sex marriage achieved a narrow and important victory in the struggle for equality in Maryland late Friday afternoon.

The bill, the Civil Marriage Protection Act of 2012, scarcely passed with a difference of 72 to 67 in the Md. House of Delegates, the same place it was shot down only one year ago.

Amidst growing support, the act will move on to the Md. Senate, where it is expected to pass. Then only the signature of Governor Martin O'Malley would be required to sign it into law, legalizing same-sex marriage. Hopes are high, as Gov. O'Malley promised to sign the bill if it ever made it to his desk.

The fight will not stop there, however. Opponents have already vowed to bring the issue to a referendum, allowing Marylanders to vote on the bill in November, before it becomes law on Jan. 1st, 2013.

What Marylanders will decide come November is still a mystery. Despite the state's highest rated support for same-sex marriage, as reported by the Washington Post, recent history is enough to keep hopefuls skeptical.

In the traditionally liberal state of California, a referendum vote called Prop 8 drew millions to the polls in 2008 to vote against and successfully overturn the legalization of same-sex marriage. However, a second overturning came only a few weeks ago from the Circuit Courts of California, ruling Prop 8 unconstitutional.

While appeals are in still process, it has many wondering whether or not a referendum in other states, including Maryland, will hold up in the long run.

On Feb. 13, the Student Government Association, the Graduate Student Council and the Institution for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement brought the discussion to the student body in an open forum with the question "Should Gays Marry?"

The modest turn out soon found itself at an impasse, with the realization that almost all of the students and faculty who showed up were in favor of the bill. Karen Rayne, an English

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Bike lane planned for Bateman



Justin Odendhal photo

Senior Chris Goulart rides his custom-made bicycle down Bateman Street on Monday afternoon. Goulart, along with many other SU students, must battle with traffic while biking to and from school.

BY KATELYN DRAPER
Staff Writer

Kevin Rowe, a senior dual majoring in economics and environmental studies, has proposed a plan to make the intersection of Bateman Street, Onley Road and South Division Street safer for bikers.

The intersection is an inevitable route for students living in University Village, The Seasons and Cedar Crossing apartments. This living area, with a high concentration of students, is accompanied by an awkward infrastructure that poses risks to bikers, pedestrians and drivers.

The hazardous crossroad forces

bikers to ride illegally against the flow of traffic and sometimes on the sidewalk with the possibility of injuring a pedestrian. Rowe sat outside of Maggs Gym and said it was easy to receive 400 signatures on his petition to promote a safe, physically and environmentally healthy way for students to get-to campus.

In fact, Bateman Street is the starting point for Wicomico County's largest one-day tourism event, Sea Gull Century. According to WMDT, the ride boosts the local economy by \$2.5 million each year.

"This tiny stretch of Bateman is relatively insignificant in the 100-mile stretch of the route," Rowe said. "But it's the starting point of the ride and a starting point for the City of Salisbury to make a change for the better."

SU is now working with the State Highway Administration, with the approval of the City Council, to turn Bateman Street into a one way street between South Division Street and Wayne Street. There will also be a traffic signal for pedestrian crossing constructed on Onley Road. Construction will commence on July 4 and last for an estimated 60 days, in time for the fall semester.

The city is also taking precautions on Milford Street by adding crosswalks at University Park by the railroad tracks and the University Fitness Center. There is also the possibility of improving or moving the crosswalk located by TETC that crosses Camden Avenue.

"This is not only a convenience to the college students, but an improvement to a heavily pedestrian (and) biker traffic area," Rowe said. "(It's) a preventive measure against tragic accidents on a city street, and a small but significant step towards making SU and the city of Salisbury a greener environment."

Film series to showcase international cultures

BY COREY NETHEN
Staff Writer

Students are engaged in international media more than they probably think.

The next time someone covertly pulls out their iPhone in class and opens "Angry Birds," they probably have no idea that this best-selling game was actually developed in Finland.

Over the next few weeks, Salisbury University will give students, faculty and the local community a chance to get a more intimate look at a number of cultures in the form of film.

A series of foreign films titled "Bridges to the World" will be hosted by World Artists Experiences and the International Division of Maryland's Office of the Secretary of State. This is SU's fourth annual screening of the series, and they are one of five schools chosen for screening.

Each film is chosen by the respective country's embassy and will include an introduction from a native facilitator followed by a discussion and Q&A after the picture. Regional refreshments are offered after the showing. After Japan's "Hula Girls" was shown, guests were served fresh slices of grapefruit in gel with hot green tea.

"Viewing a culture's cinema shows you volumes about those people," said Theatre Technical Director and Lighting Designer Tom

Anderson. "Everything a culture knows about themselves, they express in their art."

"Viewing a culture's cinema shows you volumes about those people... Everything a culture knows about themselves, they express in their art."

- Theatre Technical

Director and Lighting

Designer Tom

Anderson.

The next three films shown will be from Sri Lanka, Brazil and Turkey.

Cultural Affairs Director June Krell-Salgado

has been working tirelessly to make sure events like these open up student's minds and imaginations.

"Technology has made the world so small," Krell-Salgado said. "We're working to help people understand and promote peace, mutual respect and dialogue among nations."

The theme of this spring's events will be "free form." A few cultural events have already occurred on campus this semester. Sitarist Hari Sharma's performance in the Great Hall attracted an audience that filled the entire room, intrigued to hear his mesmerizing sound.

The House of Sand, which will be shown March 5, takes place in Brazil's Maranhão desert.

"It's interesting what people learn in these movies," Krell-Salgado said. "Most people imagine rainforests when they think of Brazil, they have no idea these deserts exist."

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BY RAMIN GOUHARI

Staff Writer

Tempers flared over a new towing ordinance at a City Council Meeting on Monday night.

The ordinance comes amidst growing outcry from Salisbury locals who believe they are paying too much for standard towing services. A \$30 administration fee would have been removed from towing agencies used by the Salisbury police.

"These fees apply only to tows where police call companies and ask them to respond. It isn't fair and just for our consumers to be charged a \$30 administration fee after they've already paid over \$300 in some cases," said City Council Vice President Deborah Campbell.

Campbell's comments infuriated several local automotive company owners who attended the meeting to make sure their voices were heard.

"It's not fair and square. You want us to work for nothing," said Gary Pusey, owner of Gary Pusey's Quality Cars.

He accused the council of having an anti-business agenda due to their stance with consumers, but went on to explain that removing the fees would only hurt them personally.

"We're not here for our health, we're here to

make a living and frankly it seems some people on this council are educated beyond their intelligence," he said.

"It's not fair and square. You want us to work for nothing."

- Gary Pusey, owner of Gary Pusey's Quality Cars.

Pusey's remarks led many in the automotive industry who seemed disgusted with the council's attempts to intrude on their businesses during a sensitive economy.

"After two years, I thought we finally put this thing to bed. We need this \$30," said Kenny Mills, Fruitland resident and business associate to Pusey. "We're looking for a fair shake."

After Pusey and Mills' remarks, city councilman Tim Spies withdrew his support of the amend-

ment, forcing the board to discuss the ordinance further.

"This industry says it is not going to work for them but I do feel Ms. Campbell's comments were justified when she hears from clients who have been mistreated again and again," said Council President Terry Cohen.

What first began as a question as to what fees were fair to charge in the towing industry, soon became a heated attack on personal politics.

"You have to take into account that we spend \$70,000 just on the truck and tires. There's no room for profit after all the expenses build up," said Richard Parsons, owner of Richard Parsons Inc.

"The more you talk, the deeper you dig your hole. This has been absolutely disgraceful, and I do not agree with your liberal ways," Pusey said.

The Council continued to discuss the ordinance and eventually sided with the auto industry in a four-to-one split. While Campbell's attempts to represent public outcry over the fees was spirited, she was ultimately unsuccessful as the amendment was struck down by the big automotive players who showed up in full force.

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Marriage

Continued from Pg. 1

County delegates Michael A. McDermott and Norman H. Conway both voted against the bill. However, an aid in Conway's office admitted the delegate remained undecided until the last minute.

While few members of the opposition were in attendance, support for marriage equality appears to be a rising trend among Salisbury University students.

In an article in last week's issue of The Flyer, titled "Marriage Equality Close for Marylanders," graduate student Julia Glanz estimated that 90 percent of the students she talked to on campus signed her petition to support the legalization of same-sex marriage. An online poll conducted by The Flyer also found 100 percent of participants in favor.

Despite the support on SU's campus, Wicomico

"(The debate is) just silly. I have yet to hear one secular reason to deny a gay couple to get married," Oberly said at the open forum last week. "America is a secular country. People are going to realize that soon."

- Senior, Matt Oberly

CRIME BEAT

CRIME BEAT

2/19/2012
1:00 a.m.

ASSAULT (OFF-CAMPUS)
Student reported he was assaulted while at the Monkey Barrel. The incident was forwarded to Salisbury City Police.

2/19/2012
4:00 - 10:45 p.m.
MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY
Staff member reported malicious damage to the baseball field specialty light.

2/19/2012
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
DRUG VIOLATION
Resident Assistant reported a CDS violation in Seven Hall. The incident was forwarded to Student Affairs.



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"This really isn't much of a discussion," Rayne said. "It's more of a cheerleading for gay marriage."

Though the state remains split, many SU students are confident that the tipping point is near. Matthew Oberly, senior, believes that people will soon give in to the last minute.

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TUI: Texting under the influence

BY ABIGAIL COLBY
Party Girl Problems Columnist

"HAPPY CINCO DE MAYO!!!!
OMG DADDY LOVVE YOU!!!!"

Let's be honest with ourselves, we've all committed a TUI at least once or twice during a night out, and while the sender of this embarrassing, yet considerate, text shall remain anonymous, we all know that feeling of waking up only to find that you've sent some messages while you were a little messed up.

Anyone who has ever sat in a class for twenty minutes while the professor attempts to locate the Powerpoint file he "just had up," or had a minor panic attack when being told that the Internet will be down for approximately 30 minutes, knows how technology plays a huge role in our everyday lives.

These gadgets and programs, intended to provide us ways to more effectively and quickly communicate with each other, can have their disadvantages as well.

Quick, non-confrontational and convenient, many students turn to texting to discuss even the most serious of topics, given that there are no awkward silences and the sender has time to decide exactly what he or she wants to say. That being said, text messaging is certainly not perfect, and once someone is four or five drinks deep not even autocorrect can save his or her rambling soul.

Upon morning-after review, many drunk texters find they have made plans, cancelled plans, broke up with, made up with and often times confused their recipient while committing a TUI, and after deciphering the typos and misspellings, find that they have said something that probably shouldn't have.

An article by Crystal Cole published in the Auburn Plainsman discusses a stage called "alcohol myopia" that one enters while drinking, in which they are very much conscious and aware of their surroundings, and become concerned with problems they are facing or things that they want with little regard for the long term.

For women, this might mean informing a friend that her new boyfriend is a jerk or describing to your ex how you feel about him using slightly harsher language. For men however, drunk texts can entail asking that girl you've had your eye on to "come over and watch movies" at 3 a.m., often with slightly different intentions in mind.

While a simple apology or explanation can usually clear up these booze-driven blunders, paraking in this risky form of communication can sometimes hold more serious consequences.

A little liquid courage may be the liberator that encourages you to tell your manager that you can't stand her or a new love interest just how serious you are about him or her. While many of us understand the feigned logic of a drunken mindset, that doesn't change the fact that these messages can put you in some seriously awkward positions.

If you are a serial drunk texter, it may be time to make prior arrangements and leave the phone behind, or erase common recipients from your contacts before heading out.

However, a seasoned partner knows how to embrace her surroundings and enjoy the people she's with, rather than keeping her head glued to a screen or thinking of how to reply for the rest of the night.

For women, this might mean informing a friend that her new

Hot, Same and Single. Pick two because you'll never find a girl with all three."

I can't take credit for that quote, but I'll take credit when you repeat it to your friends. In my recent love life I've been surrounded by crazy girls, dishearteningly so. I think I've figured out why.

They do this thing where they become incredibly infatuated with me.

The reason is that this year those who produced the Grammys chose to make a very offensive statement. That statement was essentially that they do not care about women.

Perhaps they did not say this explicitly. However, they did choose to allow Chris Brown to perform at the awards show this year.

To be fair, they had barred him from the show before, two shows to be exact. Two shows between the time he put his girlfriend Rihanna in the hospital and the time he was allowed to perform again.

Now this is understandable in some ways. Chris Brown has had phenomenal record sales even after the incident. His third studio album sold over 100,000 copies in its first week. In 2011 Billboard even named him artist of the year.

Here Ehrlich makes an interesting statement. Chris Brown put his girlfriend in the hospital in lieu of treating her with respect and digni-

ty.

maps depicting how close the two of you live in relation to one another, perhaps you never told her where you live, let alone your exact address.

Ever had a girl tweet at you 16 times in one day? You've known her for three days.

Has a girl ever had sex with you while she was on the rebound and you knew it? Has a girl broken up with her girlfriend "for you?"

Raise your hand if a girl has ever sent you a screenshot of Google

you're asleep and she posted the picture to Facebook.

Ever seen a girl spell "sex," "anal," "lube" then "girlfriend" in one game of Words with Friends? (She passed up on the triple word score twice just to spell those words).

Raise both hands if all those things have happened to you through a different girl.

If a guy were to do any of these things he wouldn't be crazy, he'd be a creep.

-GC

If you think a girl's attractiveness could ever outweigh her craziness, then you're crazy yourself.

(Mis)Adventures in Life and Love

Chapter Two

"Hot, Same and Single. Pick two because you'll never find a girl with all three."

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Grammys host Chris Brown; accept violence

BY MORGAN WAIT
Staff Writer

I didn't watch the Grammys this year. I missed The Beach Boys, Paul McCartney, Adele and Nicki Minaj; some of my favorite musicians. One might wonder why I chose to miss these performances and don't intend to look them up online.

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In terms of commercial success, the Grammys were probably hoping on the correct bandwagon. If it had remained at this, perhaps fewer people would have been offended, but it did not.

Upon announcing that Chris Brown would perform at this year's Grammys, show producer Ken Ehrlich had this to say:

"We're glad to have him back, I think people deserve a second chance, you know. If you'll note, he has not been on the Grammys for the past few years, and it may have taken a while to kind of get over the fact that we were the victim of what happened."

Here Ehrlich makes an interesting statement. Chris Brown put his girlfriend in the hospital in lieu of treating her with respect and digni-

ty. One would think that Rihanna is the victim of what Chris Brown did.

Alas, one would be wrong; the obvious victims of the physical abuse that befell Rihanna are actually the producers of the Grammys.

One could argue that the Grammys have no obligation to care about the morals of their guests. This is somewhat true and of course the award show's producers are not the only people taking a permissive view towards what Brown did. But something happened during the awards show.

On Twitter during Brown's performance the tag #womanbeater began trending, and not in the way one would think. Countless young

girls made the statement "I would let Chris Brown beat me" and tagged it with #womanbeater.

With this the consequences of the Grammys' actions become clear. They have sent a message that it is OK to hurt women, and thousands of girls have seen this message and taken it to heart.

All of this amounts to a startling trend in our culture of dismissing violence against women. The Grammys have taken their stance, and as such I would urge a general boycott against the show in the future. If our society can't take this type of thing seriously, then the situation for women will never get better.

This "all is forgiven" approach is putting women everywhere at risk.

Correction:

In the February 7 article titled "Food waste finds new life," The Flyer mistakenly left out the core group of individuals who were the foundation of the composting initiative in the Commons at Salisbury University.

The Horticulture Department began composting on SU's campus in 1992 successfully until 2002 when the only vendor in 120 miles went out of business. In 2008, Rebecca Rosing-Johnson, director of Physical Plant in the Horticulture Department, heard of the hopeful birth of Blue Hen Organics in Delaware.

After three years of preparation, SU coordinated with the waste hauler to avert 350 tons of food waste from the landfill.

The department organized a meeting with Doug Jones, manager of The Commons, and gave recommendations for bin locations, types of material to recycle and training for staff.



The SU Uniform



Created by Adora Bowman

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jo67959@gulls.salisbury.edu

you're asleep and she posted the picture to Facebook.

Ever seen a girl spell "sex," "anal," "lube" then "girlfriend" in one game of Words with Friends? (She passed up on the triple word score twice just to spell those words).

Raise both hands if all those things have happened to you through a different girl.

If a guy were to do any of these things he wouldn't be crazy, he'd be a creep.

-GC

I think my unconscious attraction to crazy girls explains my moderately promiscuous lifestyle. I usually don't realize I'm in over my head until after her and I have done the deed.

Then she starts to feel attached, and that's when I jump ship. I honestly feel bad for all the hearts I've broken over the years, but the truth is, those hearts have been attached to crazy brains.

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Raise both hands if all those things have happened to you through a different girl.

If a guy were to do any of these things he wouldn't be crazy, he'd be a creep.

-GC

If you think a girl's attractiveness could ever outweigh her craziness, then you're crazy yourself.

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Health Report

When dining at the Commons, keep healthy choices in mind.

BY AMANDA BIEDERMAN
Gull Life Editor

Thirty-five percent of Salisbury University students are required to purchase a meal plan to eat the notoriously unhealthy food at The Commons.

The buffet-style food selections are convenient. However, it is important to keep nutritional values

At the Commons:
Chicken burritos,
stuffed shell pasta
and pork

barbeque ribs all
contain more than
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serving. One

serving of meat
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in mind.

Chicken burritos, stuffed shell pasta and pork barbecue ribs all contain more than 500 calories per serving. One serving of meat lasagna is 1,100 Calories.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the average teenager should consume 2,000 to 3,000 calories per day.

So it's possible to blow all of those calories after two servings of lasagna at dinner. However, there

are many ways to stay healthy while enjoying the convenience of The Commons.

Plan out meals in advance. Twice a year, Dining Services releases a newsletter with its menu for the entire semester. Decide what to get before leaving the dorm. If you're getting ambitious, go to the Dining Services' website and look up nutritional facts and figures. That way, you'll know if the foods are too high in calories or fat.

Go for fresh fruits and veggies. The Commons has a salad bar, as well as a fruit stand. There are also other options in The Bistro. It's always good to add fruits and vegetables to any meal; they're healthy, and they fill you up so you won't over-eat on high-fat foods.

Minimize condiments. Too much cheese and dressing on a salad can add nearly 500 calories to a healthy side-dish.

Avoid Gold N Crispy. Dining Services doesn't even include information about the kiosk on their website, but there's no way to find anything healthy there. If you go there, do it sparingly. Lotta Pasta and Pete's Za Pie can both add up if you're not careful. Healthier options include the new Plato's Plate and the Kozi Kitchen.

The best way to make healthy food choices is to stay informed. Know how many calories are in a certain food, and plan the rest of your meal accordingly.

For more information, contact the on-campus dietitian Kate Cerulli at: <http://www.salisbury.edu/dining/dietitianform.html>.

Meme trend hits Salisbury

BY JESSIE KARANGU
Staff Writer

Over the last few months there have been many different Facebook sensations from planking and owing to coning.

But there's a new trend sweeping colleges everywhere, and the bug has just caught on at Salisbury University. It's a meme page full of humor that only SU students would understand called "Salisbury University Memes."

As About.com puts it, a meme is basically a virtually-transmitted cultural symbol or social idea. The term originates from author Richard Dawkins, who came up with the word while discussing evolution in his 1976 book "The Selfish Gene."

Memes can use pictures or video to relay a funny message or saying that may or may not relate to the attached video or picture.

Many early YouTube users will remember the fad known as "Rickrolling," where the user would click

to watch a video but instead of getting the desired clip, the user would be forced to listen to 80's pop star Rick Astley sing "Never Gonna Give You Up."

Credit for Salisbury's viral sensation goes to freshman Michelle Ferré, who saw a similar meme page from her friends at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

While discussing the page, Ferré realized it was becoming the new fad at majority of colleges.

"I figured it was only a matter of time until someone made the page for Salisbury, so it might as well be me," Ferré said.

She was shocked at the immediate reaction and popularity of the page. "Seeing other people's reactions through comments or just seeing how many like each post receives has been the best part," she said.

"It's fun to see how many other people agree with you or have thought the same thing, especially when you originally thought, 'I'm the only one that does this,'" she said.

Some of the most popular posts

from the page have included memes saying: "The book cost you \$250? The best I can do is \$5," addressing students at the buying back books program and "We should take all the campus police and make them fight real crime," addressing the increase in party busts over the past two semesters.

The page was launched on Feb. 10 and reached over a thousand likes in under two weeks.

When asked how she felt about communication over social media sites versus in real life, Ferré said it is an inevitable phenomenon of modern culture.

"People are more comfortable communicating via technology than face-to-face. Obviously that's not a good thing, but it's the direction our society is headed, whether we like it or not," she said. "It'll be very interesting to see in the future not only where this page heads but where society heads as we begin to engage more and more through technology."

Local shelter supports the homeless

BY BRIANNA WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

A group of men talk amongst themselves as they wait for dinner, helping themselves to coffee, hot cocoa and snacks.

One immediately takes his place on a bed after proclaiming his fatigue due to his walk from Franklin.

For these men, the opportunity to eat a hot meal and lay on a soft bed is not always possible. Belinda White, head coordinator for the men's homeless shelter at the Community of Joy church, explains that the purpose of the shelter is to help the men through encouragement.

"These people need love, understanding and grace," White said. "Some have made bad choices and some have just fallen on bad luck. Something you say could make a difference."

- Belinda White, head coordinator for the men's homeless shelter at the Community of Joy church.

community as well as a table with various personal items, toiletries and coats that the men are free to take. Around 5 p.m. men begin to come in to register and prepare for dinner.

The men's shelter rotates through several local churches each year from February to March. Community of Joy was the first to host the

board games.

Ann Himes, coordinator for St. Francis' shelter, is still in need of volunteers for overnight shifts during their second week. Himes is expecting 30 to 40 men and is still accepting mature, serious volunteers for anyone who would like to help.

"It's a good experience," said

Himes. "Volunteering can help you become more aware of the people in your world."

SU senior Becca Mastripolito volunteered at the shelter last year. Although she is not going this year, Mastripolito is making cookies for the men and recommends the experience to anyone who wants to make a difference.

"I enjoyed bringing a smile to their faces," she said. "And (I) hope that what I did somehow made their lives better."

Volunteers participate in a number of duties including serving, cleaning and just spending time with the guests by playing card and

shelter. This week, St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church will take on the task.

Members of Salisbury University's Catholic Campus Ministry will be volunteering at St. Francis for the next two weeks to help with the shelter. The students will be staying overnight to help serve and accommodate their guests.

"You'd be surprised," said CCM Minister Regina Yankalunas. "These aren't just mentally impaired. Most are talented and have just fallen on hard luck. It provides perspective."

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For more information on volunteering at St. Francis, contact Himes at 443-783-0439.

Letters should be no longer than 400 words.

In the adjoining room is a buffet of snacks also donated by the

men.

White has been nicknamed "The Warden" by some of the men because of her no-nonsense policy. However, her passion for her work is evident as she gives a tour of the space acting as the shelter.

The sanctuary is set at a warm 70 degrees and fits 20 beds. Each bed is covered in blankets either donated by the community or owned by the men. Under most of the cots are the men's possessions in various bags, which they leave at the shelter while they are out for the day.

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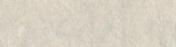
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